

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacred Heart Catholic School Announces New School Leadership Team for the 2021 - 2022 School Year

March 9, 2021, Des Moines, IA — Sacred Heart Catholic School, located at 1601 Grand Avenue in West Des Moines, announced that Scott Ehlinger, the school's current assistant principal, will step into the role of principal and Susan Battani will be the new assistant principal for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

Ehlinger brings more than 20 years of educational experience to the role of principal and adept at school leadership having served as an assistant principal, athletic director and instructional leader in both public and Catholic schools throughout Iowa and Wisconsin. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree and Master of Arts Degree in Physical Education from Loras College and a Master Degree in Educational Leadership and Administration from Iowa State University.

"It is an honor to be selected to serve as the new principal for Sacred Heart," said Ehlinger. "I enjoy engaging in the work of ensuring spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical growth for all of our students. It is an honor to serve as principal for a school with such a tremendous reputation for excellence."

Battani has 17 years of educational experience in both public and private schools and is dedicated to continuously improving the educational system for the benefit of all students. Since 2015, she has served as a kindergarten classroom teacher at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic School in Ankeny. Prior to that, Battani worked as an early childhood educator, title math teacher and early primary teacher. She will complete her Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska this May and earned her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education with endorsements in reading and language arts from the University of Northern Iowa.

"Sacred Heart Catholic School has a rich tradition of providing a strong faith-based education," said Donna Bishop, Superintendent of Schools. "The expertise of this new leadership team will only serve to enhance the school's culture of excellence."

Both Battani and Ehlinger will assume their new roles at Sacred Heart Catholic School effective July 1, 2021.

The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools includes 16 schools in 23 counties in central and southwest Iowa. Catholic schools in the Des Moines Diocese build Christ-centered, collaborative, inclusive partnerships with parents, students, and parishes to provide innovative academic excellence and inspirational faith formation for students. To learn about more Catholic schools in the Diocese of Des Moines, visit www.dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools or email ExpectMore@dmdiocese.org.

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